

3

includes a pair of flange walls 17 on which a set of longitudinally extending ribs 18 are formed in spaced relation to one another. Bottom wall portion 12 extends laterally past second side wall 14 and terminates in an upstanding longitudinal wall 19 that forms an upwardly opening channel 21. Formed on second side wall 14 and upstanding longitudinal wall 19 within channel 20 are complementary elongated ribs 22. As may be seen in FIGS. 3 and 4 the ribs carried by the flange and the channel mate to form a watertight seal between adjacent plank elements. As may be seen in FIG. 2, a series of apertures 24 is formed in bottom wall 12 within the channel 21 to permit the use of fasteners such as screws 26 to engage the subassembly 27 beneath the planks which may be a frame with joists or a subjacent surface.

To provide an attractive and functional upper surface, the top wall portion 11 of each plank is extruded with a series of longitudinal lands and crests, including a plurality of parallel major lands 31 separated by major crests 32. Formed on the top of major crests 32 are a series of minor lands 33 and minor crests 34, shown as three lands and three crests in the preferred embodiment. Laterally of the minor lands and adjacent the major lands the major crests are flat or planar. This tread pattern disguises the stress pattern caused by a plurality of longitudinally extending internal walls 28 by placing the major lands directly over the internal walls and first end wall 13. The walls are about 0.120 inches wide whereas the major lands are about 0.159 inches wide. From crest to root of the adjacent minor lands and crests is 0.030 inches, with the major lands measuring 0.6075 from center to center. Internal walls are spaced 1.215 inches apart and the width of the plank is 5.95 inches. The crests and lands provide excellent drainage, traction and appearance for the polyvinyl deck.

It is to be understood that the form of the invention shown is a preferred embodiment thereof and that various changes and modifications may be made therein without departing from the spirit of the invention or scope as defined in the following claims.

What I claim is:

1. A decking system for placement on a subassembly, the subassembly having at least two spaced apart joists, said system comprising:

- (a) a plurality of elongated tubular elements for placement in lateral interlocking engagement with each other transversely of and spanning the distance between the joists;
- (b) each of said plurality of elements having a top portion, a bottom portion, and first and second side walls connecting said top and bottom portions;
- (c) wherein said top portion extends laterally beyond said first side wall and has formed thereon a downwardly extending longitudinal flange, and wherein said bottom portion extends laterally beyond said second side wall and has formed thereon an upwardly extending longitudinal wall defining an upwardly opening channel adjacent said second side wall adapted to receive therein in watertight relation said downwardly extending longitudinal flange, said bottom portion having formed therein a plurality of apertures intermediate said second side wall and said upwardly extending longitudinal wall, adapted for the insertion of fasteners there through for engagement with said joists further comprising at least one internal wall extending between said top and bottom portion; and,
- (c) a surface tread formed on the exterior of said top portion comprising a series of longitudinally extending

4

lands and crests including parallel major and minor lands, said major lands overlying at least said first side wall and said at least one internal wall and separated by major crests, said major crest having formed thereon said minor crests and minor lands.

2. A decking system for placement on a subassembly, the subassembly having at least two spaced apart joists, said system comprising:

- (a) a plurality of elongated tubular elements for placement in lateral interlocking engagement with each other transversely of and spanning the distance between the joists;
- (b) each of said plurality of elements having a top portion, a bottom portion, and first and second side walls connecting said top and bottom portions;
- (c) wherein said top portion extends laterally beyond said first side wall and has formed thereon a downwardly extending longitudinal flange, and wherein said bottom portion extends laterally beyond said second side wall and has formed thereon an upwardly extending longitudinal wall defining an upwardly opening channel adjacent said second side wall adapted to receive therein in watertight relation said downwardly extending longitudinal flange, said bottom portion having formed therein a plurality of apertures intermediate said second side wall and said upwardly extending longitudinal wall, adapted for the insertion of fasteners there through for engagement with said joists and wherein said flange is defined by elongated opposing flange walls each of said flange walls having a pair of spaced apart longitudinally extending ribs and wherein said second side wall and said longitudinal wall have a pair of cooperatively spaced apart longitudinally extending ribs adapted to engage said flange wall ribs and form a moisture seal there along.

3. A decking system as defined in claim 2 further comprising at least one internal wall extending between said top and bottom portion.

4. A decking system as defined in claim 3 further comprising a surface tread formed on the exterior of said top portion comprising a series of longitudinally extending lands and crests including parallel major and minor lands, said major lands overlying at least said first side wall and each internal wall and separated by major crests, said major crest having formed thereon said minor crests and minor lands.

5. A decking system as defined in claim 4 wherein said major crests include a pair of longitudinally extending planar surfaces intermediate said major land and an adjacent minor land.

6. A decking system as defined in claim 5 wherein each of said plurality of elongated members is formed by extrusion from a material selected from the group including PVC, poly-ethylene-terephthalate, and aluminum.

7. A construction element according to claim 2 including a plurality of spaced-apart holes formed in said fastening portion of said channel for accommodating passage of fasteners therethrough to a supporting structure.

8. A construction element according to claim 2 including a plurality of reinforcing ribs located between said side walls and interconnecting said top and bottom walls.

9. A structure comprising a plurality of interconnected modular construction elements according to claim 2 assembled together on a supporting structure.

10. A decking system for placement on a subassembly, the subassembly having at least two spaced apart joists, said system comprising:

- (a) a plurality of elongated tubular elements for placement in lateral interlocking engagement with each other transversely of and spanning the distance between the joists;

5

- (b) each of said plurality of elements having a top portion, a bottom portion, and first and second side walls connecting said top and bottom portions;
- (c) wherein said top portion extends laterally beyond said first side wall and has formed thereon a downwardly extending longitudinal flange, and wherein said bottom portion extends laterally beyond said second side wall and has formed thereon an upwardly extending longitudinal wall defining an upwardly opening channel adjacent said second side wall adapted to receive therein in watertight relation said downwardly extending longitudinal flange, said bottom portion having formed therein a plurality of apertures intermediate said

5

10

6

second side wall and said upwardly extending longitudinal wall, adapted for the insertion of fasteners there through for engagement with said joists; and,

- (d) a surface tread formed on the exterior of said top portion comprising a series of longitudinally extending lands and crests including parallel major and minor lands, said major lands overlying at least said first side wall and separated by major crests, said major crest having formed thereon said minor crests and minor lands.

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